## Columbia River Crossing Project Update

An I-5 bridge, transit and highway improvement project

Paula J. Hammond, P.E. Secretary

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Washington State Transportation Commission July 15, 2008



## **Overview**

- Background and purpose
- Public involvement
- Locally preferred alternative
- Cost estimates and funding
- Next steps



# What is the Columbia River Crossing?

• A bridge, transit and highway improvement project aimed at improving travel efficiency and safety on Interstate 5 for...

- Cars
- Trucks
- Public transit
- Bicyclists and pedestrians



## **Leading The Project**







## **Project Partners**







**RIG** Regional Transportation Council



TRIOMET TriMet

## **Project Purpose and Need**

The project seeks to address six problems:

- Growing congestion
- Impaired freight mobility
- Diminished transit reliability
- High accident rates
- Inadequate pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Potential for earthquake damage



## **Project Benefits**

#### Safer travel and improved design

- Add shoulders and wider lanes
- Improve connections at all interchanges
- Increase seismic safety

#### More commuter choices

- Add light rail and enhanced transit
- Enhance pedestrian and bike paths
- Reduce travel times

#### Better freight mobility

- Relieve congestion to keep goods moving
- Improve access to ports and highways

### **Public Involvement**

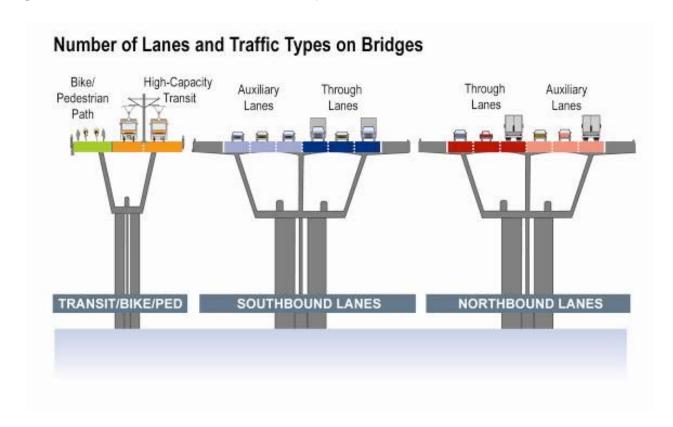


Project staff have engaged over 14,000 people at more than 500 events since October 2005.

- Neighborhood, business and community groups
- Open houses
- Transit roundtable discussions
- Task Force
- Advisory groups
  - Community & Environmental Justice
  - Freight
  - Pedestrian & Bicycle
  - Urban Design
- Fairs and festivals
- Web site & monthly emails

# Locally Preferred Alternative Replacement Bridge with separate bridge for light rail and bicyclists/pedestrians

- New bridges for highway traffic:
  - Three through lanes and two or three auxiliary lanes in each direction.
  - No need for bridge lifts.
- Separate bridge for light rail, pedestrians and bicyclists.



# Replacement Bridge (Draft Rendering)

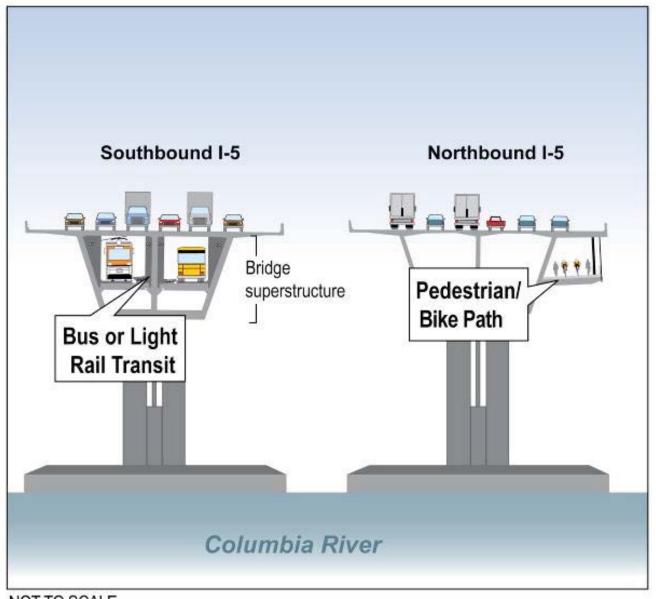


Renderings are for discussion purposes only and are subject to change. Transit alignments can be used for bus rapid transit or light rail.



## Locally Preferred Alternative Replacement Bridge

with stacked light rail / highway bridge concept



# Replacement Bridge (Draft Rendering)

with stacked light rail / highway bridge concept



Rendering is for discussion purposes only and is subject to change. Transit alignment could be used for bus rapid transit or light rail. 11/27/07



# Cost Estimate For Preliminary Locally Preferred Alternative

\$3.4 – 3.9\* (year of expenditure dollars)\*\*

#### **Cost Breakdown by Component:**

#### Highway and bridge costs

Replacement bridge \$2.7 to \$3.1 billion

(includes highway improvements from

SR500 to Victory Blvd.)

Columbia River bridge only \$1.1 to 1.4 billion

Highway and land structures \$1.6 to 1.7 billion

# **Light rail with Clark College terminus** \$0.7 to 0.8 billion (includes transit bridge across the Columbia River)

<sup>\*\*</sup>Year of expenditure assumes construction would take place between 2010 and 2017

## **Tolling the I-5 Bridge**

Average daily trips per tolling scenario for Replacement Bridge



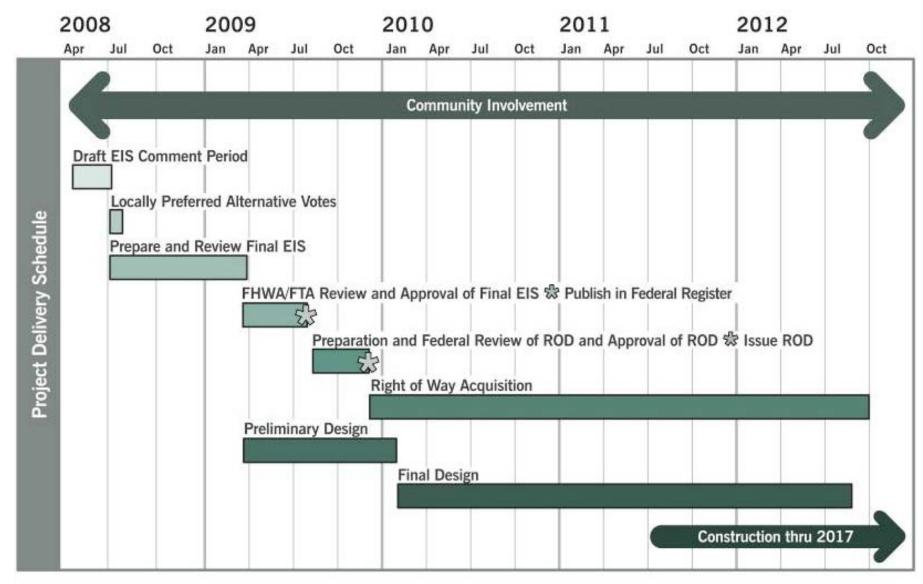
# Potential Funding Sources\*\* (draft)

	(millions) Low	(millions) High
Toll bond proceeds	\$1100	\$1500
Federal discretionary highway funds	\$400	\$600
State funds	\$800	\$1300
New Starts*	\$700	\$800

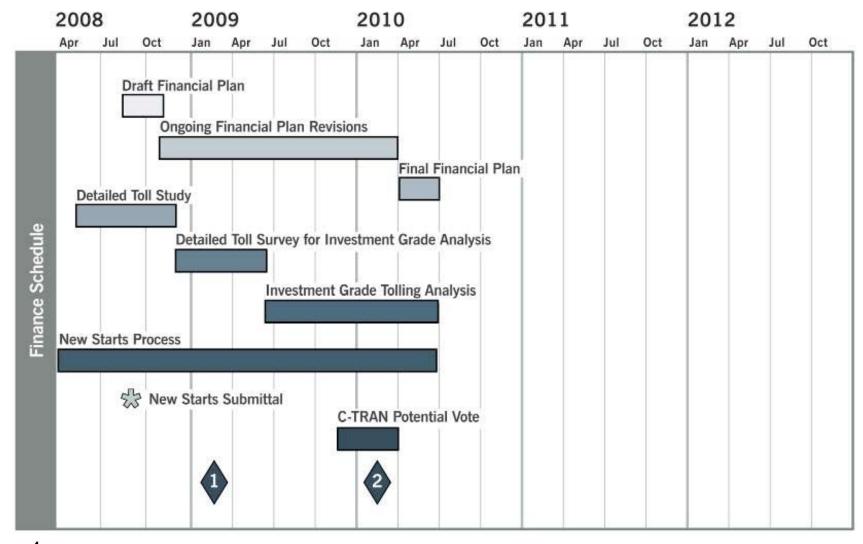
<sup>\*</sup> New Starts local through WSDOT toll credits match (\$190 million)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Figures shown in the DEIS

## **Schedule**



## **Schedule**



- 1. Oregon Legislature request funding for project
  - Washington Legislature project update and discussion
- 2. Washington Legislature concurrence to toll project and request funding

## **Thank You**

#### **Columbia River Crossing**

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